



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARKS OFFICE

ART UNIT:  
EXAMINER:  
APPLICANT: Wheatley, Alan  
SERIAL NO.: 10/684,008  
FILED: 10/10/2003  
CONFRM. NO.:  
FOR: FRICTIONAL HOLDING PAD

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8**

DATE OF DEPOSIT: Dec 29, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper or fee (along with any paper or fee referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
Garron M. Hobson

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir/Madam:

Please find, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(1), the enclosed Form PTO-1449 which contains a list of all patents, publications, or other items that have come to the attention of one or more of the individuals designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c). Applicant respectfully submits that this Information Disclosure Statement is filed pursuant to:

☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b)(1) or (3), within three months of the filing date of the application, or before a first office action on the merits, whichever occurs last;

☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (c), after a first office action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance, whichever occurs first, and is accompanied by either 1) a statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), or 2) the fee set forth in § 1.17(p); or

☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (d), after a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, whichever occurs first, but on or before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by both 1) a statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), and 2) the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

While no representation is made that any of these references may be "prior art" within the meaning of that term in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 or 103, the enclosed list of references is disclosed so as to comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

Moreover, while no representation is made that a specific search of office files or patent office records has been conducted or that no better art exists, the undersigned attorney of record believes that the references listed, together with any other references which may have been previously submitted or listed in priority US Application numbers 60/308,955, filed on July 31, 2001; 60/344,571, filed on December 28, 2001; and 10/209,948 filed July 30, 2003, are the closest to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) of which the undersigned is presently aware, and no art which is closer to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) has been knowingly withheld.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, a copy of each listed reference (or relevant portion thereof) which was not previously submitted to, or cited by, the Patent Office is also enclosed.

For all listed references that are not either in the English language, or accompanied by a translation into English, a concise explanation of relevance as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) is enclosed attached to each.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0100.

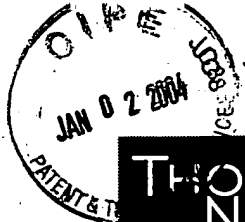
Dated this 29 day of December, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,



Garron M. Hobson  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 41,073

THORPE NORTH & WESTERN, LLP  
Customer No. 20,551  
P.O. Box 1219  
Sandy, Utah 84091-1219  
Telephone: (801) 566-6633



**THORPE**  
**NORTH &**  
**WESTERN** LL.P.  
SINCE 1979  
THE TEAM APPROACH TO PREMIER PERFORMANCE <sup>®</sup>

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

PATENTS, TRADEMARKS,

COPYRIGHTS, UNFAIR

COMPETITION, TRADE SECRETS,

LITIGATION, DISPUTE RESOLUTION

AND RELATED MATTERS

**SALT LAKE AREA OFFICE**  
8180 SOUTH 700 EAST, SUITE 200  
SANDY, UTAH 84070-0562  
801.566.6633  
801.566.0750 FAX  
PATLAW@TNW.COM  
WWW.TNW.COM

**U.S. MAILING ADDRESS**  
P.O. Box 1219  
SANDY, UTAH 84091-1219

**LAS VEGAS AREA OFFICE**  
OF COUNSEL: NEIL J. BELLER †  
7408 WEST SAHARA  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89117  
702.368.7767  
† ADMITTED IN NEVADA

VAUGHN W. NORTH  
M. WAYNE WESTERN  
GARRON M. HOBSON  
PETER M. DE JONGE  
CLIFTON W. THOMPSON  
STEVE M. PERRY  
WEILI CHENG, PH.D.  
DAVID R. MCKINNEY, PE.  
GARY P. OAKESON  
DAVID W. OSBORNE  
DAVID L. STOTT  
JASON R. JONES  
PAUL C. OESTREICH, M.S.  
ERIK S. ERICKSEN, M.S.  
REGISTERED PATENT ATTORNEYS  
NATHAN S. WINESETT  
OF COUNSEL  
BRYAN K. HANKS  
PATENT AGENT  
ALEX HAYMOND, B.S. EE  
TODD B. ALDER, PH.D.  
JONATHAN M. BENNS, PH.D.  
AARON M. SMITH, B.S. EE  
WILLIAM T. RALSTON, PH.D. EE  
TECHNICAL CONSULTANTS  
CALVIN E. THORPE  
(1938-1999)

December 23, 2003

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 10/684,008 filed 10/10/03  
Applicant: Wheatley  
Title: **FRictionAL HOLDING PAD**  
Group Art Unit:  
Attorney Docket No. T9475.NP.DIV

Sir/Madam:

Transmitted herewith for filing and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97 is an Information Disclosure Statement.

Enclosed also are the following designated documents, as required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98:

- ☒ Form PTO-1449 list of 9 references submitted for consideration.
- ☐ Legible copies of the listed references or their relevant portions.
- ☐ All English translations of each non-English reference, if any, within the possession, custody, control or availability of anyone designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(c)).

The following are included within the Information Disclosure Statement if applicable and as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98:

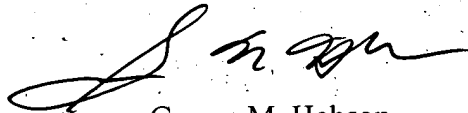
- ☐ Concise explanation of relevance of each reference not in English and unaccompanied by an English translation.
- ☐ Statement that certain listed references not enclosed are substantially cumulative of an enclosed reference.
- ☒ Statement that certain listed references not enclosed were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in the identified priority US Application numbers 60/308,955, filed on July 31, 2001; 60/344,571, filed on December 28, 2001; and 10/209,948 filed July 30, 2003 which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

In order to secure consideration of the items designated above, one or more of the following, if required, is also enclosed:

- ☐ Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) or (2).
- ☐ Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (amount in § 1.17(p)) constituting the submission fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

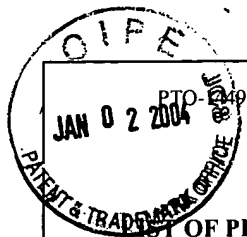
In the event that 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) applies and the Examiner is not satisfied that the Statement meets the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), or in any other event remediable by a fee, please credit any over payment or charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 20-0100 of the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



Garron M. Hobson  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 41,073

THORPE NORTH & WESTERN, LLP  
Customer No. 20,551  
P.O. Box 1219  
Sandy, Utah 84091-1219  
Telephone: (801) 566-6633



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.  
T9475.NP.DIV

SERIAL NO.  
10/684,008

APPLICANT Wheatley

LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT

FILING DATE  
10/10/03

GROUP

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	2,128,118	Aug. 23, 1938	Burford			
	AB	2,466,502	Apr. 5, 1949	Stiller			
	AC	2,642,248	June 16, 1953	Semon			
	AD	3,654,047	Apr. 4, 1972	Berkowitz			
	AE	4,944,311	Jul. 31, 1990	Eldridge, Jr. et al.			
	AF	5,036,866	Aug. 6, 1991	Eldridge, Jr. et al.			
	AG	4,749,222	06/1988	Idland			
	AH	5,358,094	10/1994	Molinaro			
	AI	5,638,249	06/1997	Rubino			
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AM						
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						

### OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AR		
	AS		
	AT		

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.